Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should <u>not</u> be used to purchase course materials.

COURSE SYLLABUS

PSYC 515
RESEARCH METHODS & STATISTICS IN PSYCHOLOGY II

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines advanced research methodology and statistical techniques for psychological research. This course equips students to design, conduct, and present research using APA formatting guidelines. A computer software package is used for analysis of data.

RATIONALE

The purpose of this course is to provide further understanding of research methods. This course will build on previous course work and guide students through the decision-making process regarding the selection of appropriate analytic techniques, interpretation of statistical results, and presentation of data and findings.

I. PREREQUISITE

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the Academic Course Catalog.

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment

B. Internet access (broadband recommended) * Note two required readings are freely available through your eBook (located within each week's Reading & Study folder):

C. Blackboard recommended browsers

D. Microsoft Office

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

A. Select the appropriate statistical test to analyze and interpret psychological data produced by different research designs.

B. Use SPSS statistical software to analyze psychological data.

C. Determine whether statistical results support hypotheses of psychological studies.

D.   Communicate the results of data analysis in appropriate APA format in written and technological forms.

V.   COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

A.   Textbook readings and lecture presentations

B.   Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Course Syllabus and Student Expectations, the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

C.   Discussion Board Forums (2)

Discussion boards are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student will create a thread in response to the provided prompt based on the Lab assignment for each forum. Each thread must be at least 400 words and demonstrate course-related knowledge. In addition to the thread, the student will reply to at least 2 other classmates' threads. Each reply must be at least 150 words. Assertions must be supported by citations as needed.

D.   Homework (8)

The student will complete weekly homework exercises. These homework exercises rely on the module/week's assigned readings and presentations.

E.   Lab Project (To be completed in multiple phases)

The student will administer a survey to at least 20 people and will use the resulting data to complete a lab assignment throughout the course. The lab includes data collection via a survey, choosing the correct type of data analysis using SPSS, and reporting and interpreting results in a results section to be written in current APA format. Instructions from the Institutional Review Board regarding how to administer this survey must be followed.

F.   Exams (4)

The student will complete 4 exams. Each exam will be open-book/open-notes, and is cumulative. Approximately 75% of the material will be from the previous two weeks; the remaining 25% can be from anything learned thus far. Each exam will have a time limit of 1 hour and 30 minutes and will contain 40 multiple-choice questions.

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

Course Required Checklist		10
Discussion Board Forums		
Lab Project: Phase 1		80
Lab Project: Phase 3		80
SPSS Homework (8 at 40 pts ea)		320
Lab Project		
Phase 2		80
Phase 4		40
Exam 1	(Modules 1–2)	100
Exam 2	(Modules 1–4)	100
Exam 3	(Modules 1–6)	100
Exam 4	(Modules 1–8)	100
	Total	1010

B. Scale

A = 940–1010   A- = 920–939   B+ = 900–919   B = 860–899   B- = 840–859

C+ = 820–839   C = 780–819   C- = 760–779   D+ = 740–759   D = 700–739

D- = 680–699   F = 0–679

C. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online's Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.

COURSE SCHEDULE

PSYC 515

Jackson, *Research Methods and Statistics* (2016).
Kirkpatrick & Feeney, *A Simple Guide…. Part 2* (2016).
American Psychological Association, *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (2010).

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Jackson: ch. 11 (you do not have to calculate the sum of squares or mean square as shown in this chapter) Kirkpatrick & Feeney (2016b): chs. 10, 12 3 presentations	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions Homework 1	10 0 40
2	Jackson: ch.12 (you do not have to calculate the sum of squares or mean square as shown in this chapter) Kirkpatrick & Feeney (2016b): chs. 11, 13 2 presentations	Homework 2 Exam 1	40 100
3	Jackson: ch. 15 APA: chs. 1–4. Lab Project Overview (document) Lab Project Survey Development (document)	DB Forum 1 (Lab Project: Phase 1) Homework 3	80 40
4	Jackson: ch. 14 (read it all but for calculations, you only need to know both chi-squares) Kirkpatrick & Feeney (2016b): ch. 17 2 presentations	Homework 4 Exam 2	40 100
5	Jackson: ch. 15 (review) APA: 2.06 and 3.03 (review) 1 presentation	Lab Project: Phase 2 Homework 5	80 40
6	Jackson: ch. 13 1 presentation	Homework 6 Exam 3	40 100
7	APA: chs. 5–7 1 presentation	DB Forum 2 (Lab Project: Phase 3) Homework 7	80 40
8	APA: ch. 8 1 presentation	Lab Project: Phase 4 Homework 8 Exam 4	40 40 100
		TOTAL	**1010**

DB = Discussion Board

NOTE: Each course module/week begins on Monday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Sunday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on **Friday**.